

I am writing to express our utmost and sincerest support for solar parking canopies to be considered unrestricted installations, like rooftop or brownfield projects, in the new Massachusetts SREC II legislation.

Given the many ways in which a solar canopy can add new life and environmental benefits to a parking lot or garage, it would be a shame to have their growth limited. Very simply, solar parking canopies take existing parking lots and make them better: better for the environment and better for drivers. In addition to producing renewable energy, solar canopies provide shading to vehicles, thereby reducing the need for air conditioning, further abating area emissions. They also give protection from rain and snow, and offer significant environmental benefits by reducing the heat island effect and lowering light pollution at night. Further, solar parking canopies provide the unique ability to capture stormwater for various greywater uses such as irrigation.

Solar parking canopies are engineered to seamlessly support electric vehicle charging stations, and serve as ideal distributed generation additions to properties by providing discreet micro-grid capacity that reduces the need for expensive transmission systems. Canopy construction does not require clear-cutting, because canopies are additions to existing infrastructure--additions that increase the value, aesthetics, and environmental attributes of otherwise asphalt-laden sites. Lastly, solar parking canopy projects improve the local economy through job creation.

In sum, I encourage you to seriously consider the myriad benefits that solar parking canopies provide as you draft the new SREC II legislation in the coming weeks.

Respectfully,

Laurence Mackler, CEO / Founder / Director of Innovation

on behalf of all of Solaire Generation
New York, NY